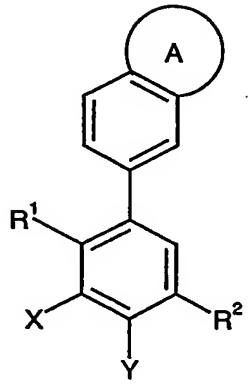
Claims:

1. A compound of formula (I):



(I)

wherein

A is a fused 5-membered heteroaryl ring optionally substituted by up to two substituents independently selected from C_{1-6}alkyl, -$(CH_2)_m$-C_{3-7}cycloalkyl, halogen, cyano, trifluoromethyl, -$(CH_2)_mOR^3$, -$(CH_2)_mCO_2R^3$, -$(CH_2)_mNR^3R^4$, -$(CH_2)_mCONR^3R^4$, -$(CH_2)_mNHCOR^3$, -$(CH_2)_mSO_2NR^3R^4$, -$(CH_2)_mNHSO_2R^3$, -$(CH_2)_mSO_2(CH_2)_nR^5$, a 5- or 6-membered heterocyclyl ring containing nitrogen optionally substituted by C_{1-2}alkyl or -$(CH_2)_mCO_2R^3$, and a 5-membered heteroaryl ring optionally substituted by C_{1-2}alkyl;

R^1 is selected from methyl and chloro;

R^2 is selected from -NH-CO-R^6 and -CO-NH-$(CH_2)_q$-R^7;

R^3 is selected from hydrogen, C_{1-6}alkyl optionally substituted by up to two OH groups, -$(CH_2)_m$-C_{3-7}cycloalkyl, -$(CH_2)_m$phenyl optionally substituted by R^8 and/or R^9 and -$(CH_2)_m$heteroaryl optionally substituted by R^8 and/or R^9,

R^4 is selected from hydrogen and C_{1-6}alkyl, or

R^3 and R^4, together with the nitrogen atom to which they are bound, form a 5- or 6-membered heterocyclic ring optionally containing one additional heteroatom selected from oxygen, sulfur and N-R^{10};

R^5 is selected from C_{1-6}alkyl optionally substituted by up to three halogen atoms, C_{2-6}alkenyl optionally substituted by phenyl, C_{3-7}cycloalkyl, heteroaryl optionally substituted by up to three R^8 and/or R^9 groups, and phenyl optionally substituted by R^8 and/or R^9;

R^6 is selected from hydrogen, C_{1-6}alkyl, -$(CH_2)_q$-C_{3-7}cycloalkyl, trifluoromethyl, -$(CH_2)_r$heteroaryl optionally substituted by R^{11} and/or R^{12}, and -$(CH_2)_r$phenyl optionally substituted by R^{11} and/or R^{12};

R^7 is selected from hydrogen, C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{3-7}cycloalkyl, -CONHR^{13}, phenyl optionally substituted by R^{11} and/or R^{12}, and heteroaryl optionally substituted by R^{11} and/or R^{12};

R^8 and R^9 are each independently selected from halogen, cyano, trifluoromethyl, nitro, C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{1-6}alkoxy, -$CONR^{13}R^{14}$, -COR^{15}, -CO_2R^{15}, and heteroaryl, or

R^8 and R^9 are linked to form a fused 5-membered heterocyclyl ring containing one heteroatom selected from oxygen, sulphur and N-R^{10}, or a fused heteroaryl ring;

R^{10} is selected from hydrogen and methyl;

R^{11} is selected from C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{1-6}alkoxy, -$(CH_2)_q$-C_{3-7}cycloalkyl, -$CONR^{13}R^{14}$, -$NHCOR^{14}$, halogen, CN, -$(CH_2)_sNR^{16}R^{17}$, trifluoromethyl, phenyl optionally substituted by one or more R^{12} groups, and heteroaryl optionally substituted by one or more R^{12} groups;

R^{12} is selected from C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{1-6}alkoxy, halogen, trifluoromethyl, and -$(CH_2)_sNR^{16}R^{17}$;

R^{13} and R^{14} are each independently selected from hydrogen and C_{1-6}alkyl, or

R^{13} and R^{14}, together with the nitrogen atom to which they are bound, form a 5- or 6-membered heterocyclic ring optionally containing one additional heteroatom selected from oxygen, sulfur and N-R^{10}, wherein the ring may be substituted by up to two C_{1-6}alkyl groups;

R^{15} is C_{1-6}alkyl;

R^{16} is selected from hydrogen, C_{1-6}alkyl and -$(CH_2)_q$-C_{3-7}cycloalkyl optionally substituted by C_{1-6}alkyl,

R^{17} is selected from hydrogen and C_{1-6}alkyl, or

R^{16} and R^{17}, together with the nitrogen atom to which they are bound, form a 5- or 6-membered heterocyclic ring optionally containing one additional heteroatom selected from oxygen, sulfur and N-R^{10};

X and Y are each independently selected from hydrogen, methyl and halogen;

m is selected from 0, 1, 2 and 3;

n is selected from 0, 1, 2 and 3;

q is selected from 0, 1 and 2;

r is selected from 0 and 1; and

s is selected from 0, 1, 2 and 3.

2. A compound according to claim 1 wherein A is a fused 5-membered heteroaryl ring containing up to two heteroatoms independently selected from oxygen and nitrogen optionally substituted by up to two substituents independently selected from C_{1-4}alkyl, -$(CH_2)_m$-C_{3-7}cycloalkyl, -$(CH_2)_mCO_2R^3$, -$(CH_2)_mNR^3R^4$, -$(CH_2)_mCONR^3R^4$, -$(CH_2)_mNHCOR^3$, -$(CH_2)_mSO_2(CH_2)_nR^5$, and a 5- or 6-membered heterocyclyl ring containing nitrogen optionally substituted by C_{1-2}alkyl or -$(CH_2)_mCO_2R^3$.

3. A compound according to claim 1 or claim 2 wherein R^1 is methyl.

4. A compound according to any one of the preceding claims wherein R^2 is -CO-NH-$(CH_2)_q$-R^7.

5. A compound according to any one of the preceding claims wherein X is hydrogen or fluorine.

6. A compound according to claim 1 as defined in any one of Examples 1 to 141.

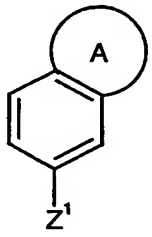
7. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 6 in admixture with one or more pharmaceutically acceptable carriers, diluents or excipients.

8. A method for treating a condition or disease state mediated by p38 kinase activity or mediated by cytokines produced by the activity of p38 kinase comprising administering to a patient in need thereof a compound as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 6.

9. Use of a compound as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 6 in the manufacture of a medicament for use in the treatment of a condition or disease state mediated by p38 kinase activity or mediated by cytokines produced by the activity of p38 kinase.

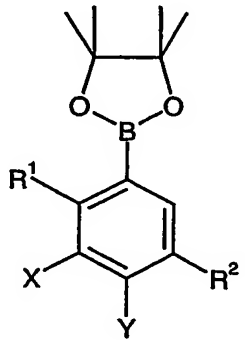
10. A process for preparing a compound of formula (I) as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 6 which comprises

(a) reacting a compound of formula (II)

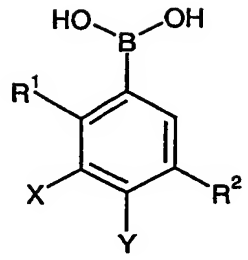


(II)

in which A is defined in claim 1 and Z^1 is halogen,
with a compound of formula (IIIA) or (IIIB)



(IIIA)

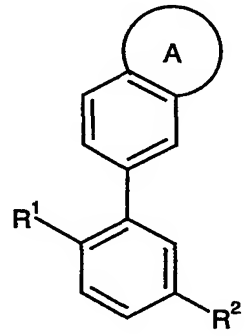


(IIIB)

in which R^1, R^2, X and Y are as defined in claim 1,
in the presence of a catalyst, or

(b) final stage modification of one compound of formula (I) as defined in claim 1 to give another compound of formula (I) as defined in claim 1.

11. A compound of formula (IA):



(IA)

wherein

A is a fused 5-membered heteroaryl ring optionally substituted by up to two substituents independently selected from C_{1-6}alkyl, -$(CH_2)_m$-C_{3-7}cycloalkyl, halogen, cyano, trifluoromethyl, -$(CH_2)_mOR^3$, -$(CH_2)_mNR^3R^4$, -$(CH_2)_mCONR^3R^4$, -$(CH_2)_mNHCOR^3$, -$(CH_2)_mSO_2NR^3R^4$, -$(CH_2)_mNHSO_2R^3$, -$(CH_2)_mSO_2(CH_2)_nR^5$, a 5- or 6-membered heterocyclyl ring containing nitrogen optionally substituted by C_{1-2}alkyl and a 5-membered heteroaryl ring optionally substituted by C_{1-2}alkyl;

R^1 is selected from methyl and chloro;

R^2 is selected from -NH-CO-R^6 and -CO-NH-$(CH_2)_q$-R^7;

R^3 is selected from hydrogen, C_{1-6}alkyl optionally substituted by up to two OH groups, -$(CH_2)_m$-C_{3-7}cycloalkyl, -$(CH_2)_m$phenyl optionally substituted by R^8 and/or R^9 and -$(CH_2)_m$heteroaryl optionally substituted by R^8 and/or R^9

R^4 is selected from hydrogen and C_{1-6}alkyl, or

R^3 and R^4, together with the nitrogen atom to which they are bound, form a 5- or 6-membered heterocyclic ring optionally containing one additional heteroatom selected from oxygen, sulfur and N-R^{10};

R^5 is selected from C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{3-7}cycloalkyl, heteroaryl optionally substituted by R^8 and/or R^9, and phenyl optionally substituted by R^8 and/or R^9;

R^6 is selected from hydrogen, C_{1-6}alkyl, -$(CH_2)_q$-C_{3-7}cycloalkyl, trifluoromethyl, -$(CH_2)_r$heteroaryl optionally substituted by R^{11} and/or R^{12}, and -$(CH_2)_r$phenyl optionally substituted by R^{11} and/or R^{12};

R^7 is selected from hydrogen, C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{3-7}cycloalkyl, $CONHR^{13}$, phenyl optionally substituted by R^{11} and/or R^{12}, and heteroaryl optionally substituted by R^{11} and/or R^{12};

R^8 and R^9 are each independently selected from halogen, cyano, trifluoromethyl, C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{1-6}alkoxy, COR^{15}, CO_2R^{15}, and heteroaryl, or

R^8 and R^9 are linked to form a fused 5-membered heterocyclyl ring containing one heteroatom selected from oxygen, sulphur and N-R^{10};

R^{10} is selected from hydrogen and methyl;

R^{11} is selected from C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{1-6}alkoxy, -$(CH_2)_q$-C_{3-7}cycloalkyl, -$CONR^{13}R^{14}$, -$NHCOR^{14}$, halogen, CN, -$(CH_2)_sNR^{16}R^{17}$, trifluoromethyl, phenyl optionally substituted by one or more R^{12} groups, and heteroaryl optionally substituted by one or more R^{12} groups;

R^{12} is selected from C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{1-6}alkoxy, halogen, trifluoromethyl, and -$(CH_2)_sNR^{16}R^{17}$;

R^{13} and R^{14} are each independently selected from hydrogen and C_{1-6}alkyl, or

R^{13} and R^{14}, together with the nitrogen atom to which they are bound, form a 5- or 6-membered heterocyclic ring optionally containing one additional heteroatom selected from oxygen, sulfur and N-R^{10}, wherein the ring may be substituted by up to two C_{1-6}alkyl groups;

R^{15} is C_{1-6}alkyl;

R^{16} is selected from hydrogen, C_{1-6}alkyl and -$(CH_2)_q$-C_{3-7}cycloalkyl optionally substituted by C_{1-6}alkyl,

R^{17} is selected from hydrogen and C_{1-6}alkyl, or

R^{16} and R^{17}, together with the nitrogen atom to which they are bound, form a 5- or 6-membered heterocyclic ring optionally containing one additional heteroatom selected from oxygen, sulfur and N-R^{10};

m is selected from 0, 1, 2 and 3;

n is selected from 0, 1, 2 and 3;

q is selected from 0, 1 and 2;

r is selected from 0 and 1; and

s is selected from 0, 1, 2 and 3.